

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 9-28 and 30-42 are pending, of which claims 17-19, 22-23, 25-28, 33 and 34 are withdrawn. Claims 1, 15, 16, 24, 26, 30, 32, 36 and 39 are amended. Claims 1-3, 9-16, 20-21, 24, 30-32 and 35-42 are under examination.

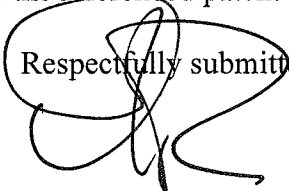
The claims have been placed into better form for appeal, to appeal the pending section 112 rejections. Applicant specifically reserves the right to proceed with canceled or amended subject matter in future continuing applications.

In particular, claim 1 has been amended and now recites subject matter found to be free of the prior art. Similarly, claim 15 has been placed into independent form. Thus, the only pending rejections should be those under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

A notice of appeal is also enclosed herewith.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (512) 536-3055 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,


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